



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Mitsuo UMEMOTO *et al.*

Serial No.: 10/824,639

Filing Date: April 15, 2004

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE  
MANUFACTURING METHOD

Examiner: David Vu

Group Art Unit: 2818

Confirmation No.: 7675

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

M/S RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to the next examination of this application in consequence of the Request for Continued Examination filed concurrently herewith, please amend this application as follows:

**The listing of claims begins on page 2.**

**The Remarks begin on page 4.**